

AGENCY FISCAL ESTIMATE OF PROPOSED REGULATIONS

AGENCY SUBMITTING REGULATION Department of Social Services DATE 12/02/2011

SUBJECT MATTER OF REGULATION To Permit Enrollment and Payment of Physician Assistants

Working Under the Supervision of a Physician

REGULATION SECTION NO. 17b-262-337 through 17b-262-349 STATUTORY AUTHORITY 17b-262

OTHER AGENCIES AFFECTED none

EFFECTIVE DATE USED IN COST ESTIMATE January 1, 2012

ESTIMATE PREPARED BY Annemarie Madore

QUESTIONS SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO Lee Voghel TELEPHONE 424-5842

SUMMARY OF STATE COST AND REVENUE IMPACT OF PROPOSED REGULATION

Agency Department of Social Services Fund Affected General

	First Year 2012	Second Year 2013	Full Operation 2014
Number of Positions			
Personal Services			
Other Expenses			
Equipment			
Grants (Medicaid)			
Total State Cost (Savings)			
Estimated Revenue Gain (Loss)			
Total Net State Cost (Savings)			

STATE IMPACT OF REGULATION:

This proposed regulation seeks to amend sections 17b-262-337 through 17b-262-349 of the regulations of Connecticut State Agencies to permit enrollment and payment of physician assistants working under the supervision of a physician.

The purpose of the regulation is to add provisions that allow the Department of Social Services (“Department”) to pay for the services of a physician assistant working in conjunction with a physician in accordance with their scope of practice as outlined in the Connecticut Federal Statutes and to enroll physician assistants as performing providers. Effective January 1, 2012, the Department will be transitioning from a Managed Care Organization model to an Administrative Services Organization (ASO) model. Under the ASO model, DSS is responsible for maintaining the federally required ratio of primary care practitioners to clients. Physician assistants working in conjunction with a primary care practitioner are included in the count. A change in regulations is necessary in order to allow the enrollment of physician assistants so that the Department may ensure that the provider network is adequate to meet federal criteria.

The main provisions of the regulation are to; (1) add definitions of physician assistant and performing provider and (2) add a section describing payment of physician assistants. The proposed regulation also makes several technical corrections.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

The proposed regulation will add definitions of physician assistant and performing provider, add a section describing payment of physician assistant, and make several technical corrections. It is estimated that the addition of physician assistants working under the supervision of a physician to the providers that may bill for Medicaid payment will have minimal fiscal impact because the current practice of billing under the supervising physician will continue.

MUNICIPAL IMPACT: None.

SMALL BUSINESS IMPACT : None.

While the Department does not anticipate that the proposed regulations will have a significant impact on small businesses, small businesses will have the opportunity to bring any unanticipated concerns to the Department’s attention through notice and public comment.